

REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 1-24 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

At section 2 of the office action, claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Srikantan et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0029548 A1, hereafter referred to as *Srikantan*), in view of *Boyce* (U.S. Patent No. 5,778,143).

In rejecting these claims, as with the non-final office action, the Examiner states that *Srikantan* discloses a signaling method for use in stream switching among a plurality of streams. The Examiner admits that *Srikantan* fails to disclose providing in the bitstream information indicative of the switching point, but points to *Boyce* for disclosing this feature.

In responding to the non-final office action, applicant pointed out that *Srikantan* is concerned with handling events received at a number of sockets in a computer server configured to serve clients. In one embodiment, one socket is shared by a number of clients or consumers (paragraphs [0006] – [0007]). In another embodiment, a plurality of registered sockets are associated with a plurality of event consumers, wherein registered sockets may be divided into multiple collections so that the sockets within a collection can share a processor thread to detect events and to notify event consumers (paragraph [0009]). *Srikantan* does **not** disclose stream switching wherein a first bitstream is switched to a second bitstream at a switching point or disclose a recovery point which defines a first correct or approximately correct picture in the second bitstream.

Srikantan does **not** disclose that the **recovery point** is different from the **switching point** as claimed.

Boyce is concerned with a video tape recorder (VTR) trick play operation, such as fast forward and reverse operations (col.1, lines 31-37). During a trick play operation, a trick play frame is displayed for every N frames displayed during normal play operation. For example, in a 9x fast forward operation, one trick play frame is displayed for every 9 normal play video frames (col.6, lines 8-14). In displaying video frames, when I (intra)-frames are

used at regular interval, the picture will be refreshed at a regular basis (col.3, lines 31-32).

But when I-frames are not used at regular intervals, a progressive refresh is used. When progressive refresh is used, within a certain period of time, each macroblock in the picture is coded intra at least once (col.3, lines 33-44).

Boyce discloses a data extraction techniques for extracting data from a video bitstream including a plurality of inter-coded video frames and arranging the data to form fully intra-coded frames which can be used for VTR trick play operation (col.5, lines 53-61; col.7, lines 26-30). *Boyce* uses a data extraction and frame forming (DEFF) circuit to identify the intra-coded macroblocks in the bitstream and combine the intra-coded macroblocks from several intra-coded frames into a single composite intra-coded video frame for VTR trick play operation (col. 6, lines 39-52).

Boyce does **not** disclose stream switching between a first bitstream and a second bitstream at a switching point. *Boyce* does not disclose a **recovery point** being different from the **switching point** in stream switching.

At section 2 of the final office action, the Examiner again states that *Boyce* discloses a recovery point different from the switching point (Figures 1-2; Abstract; and col. 5, line 53 to col.7, line 19).

At section 3, the Examiner further states that *Boyce* discloses generating video frames from a received progressive refresh bitstream representing a series of inter-coded video frames for providing accurate reconstruction of the sequence of video frames.

The Examiner summarily points to col. 5, line 53 to col.7, line 19 of *Boyce*, but fails to specifically point out what **points** in the bitstream, according to *Boyce*, that the Examiner considers as being equivalent to the **recovery point** and the **switching point**, and why such recovery point is **different** from the switching point. Likewise, the Examiner fails to point out what part of abstract discloses a **switching point** and what part discloses a **recovery point** which is different from the switching point.

Srikantan, in View of Boyce, Fails to Render Claims 1, 8, 13 and 21 Obvious

The claimed invention, as claimed in claims 1, 8, 13 and 21, is concerned with bitstream switching wherein the bitstreams comprise at least one switching point so as to allow switching from a first bitstream to a second bitstream at the switching point. The

bitstreams also have a recovering point which defines a first correct or approximately correct picture in an output order in the second bitstream decoded in a client subsequent to the bitstream switching. The recovery point is different from the switching point.

Srikantan does not disclose providing information indicative of the switching point, as admitted by the Examiner. *Boyce* does not disclose or suggest that the decoded second bitstream subsequent to the switching comprises a recovery point which defines a first correct or approximately correct picture, wherein the recovery point is different from the switching point.

For the above reason, *Srikantan*, in view of *Boyce*, fails to render claims 1, 8, 13 and 21 obvious.

Srikantan, in View of *Boyce*, Fails to Render Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-20, 22-24 Obvious

Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-20 and 22-24 are dependent from claims 1, 8, 13 and 21 and recite features not recited in claims 1, 8, 13 and 21. For reasons regarding claims 1, 8, 13 and 21 above, it is respectfully submitted that *Srikantan*, in view of *Boyce*, also fails to render claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-20 and 22-24 obvious.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-24 are allowable. Early allowance of all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Q. Lao

Kenneth Q. Lao
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 40,061

Dated: Jan 29, 2008

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS
& ADOLPHSON LLP
Bradford Green, Building Five
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224
Monroe, CT 06468
Telephone: (203) 261-1234
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676
USPTO Customer No. 004955